



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

SEP 29 2015

Teresa Bresler
Sr. NEPA Planner, Desert IPT
NAVFAC SW
1220 Pacific Highway, Bldg 131
San Diego, CA 92132

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement/Legislative Environmental Impact Statement for
Renewal of Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Public Land Withdrawal, Inyo, Kern, and
San Bernardino Counties, California (CEQ # 20150427)

Dear Ms. Bresler,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA reviewed the Draft EIS and provided comments to the U.S. Navy in a letter dated November 8, 2012. We rated the Draft EIS as Environmental Concerns (EC-2) primarily due to our concerns about acoustic impacts, contamination migration, range clearance, water resources, and special status species. We appreciate the additional information in the FEIS that responds to our comments.

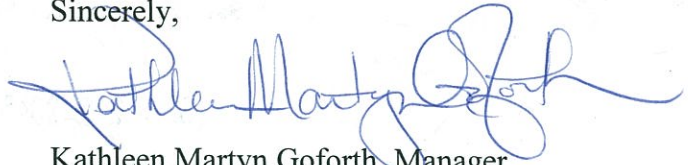
We continue to have concerns about noise impacts and recommend the U.S. Navy take additional measures to mitigate these impacts. EPA recommends mitigation efforts that include targeted public outreach on noise impacts, via U.S. Postal Service, for the approximately 1000 additional off-installation residents who will be exposed to increased noise levels, to ensure they are aware of noise complaint procedures and provided appropriate contact information. We also recommend providing education and technical assistance on home soundproofing measures to residents and other sensitive receptors within the affected zones.

Though we appreciate the detailed explanation for the military's use of the state-of-the-art NOISEMAP modeling software to develop noise contours, this information did not fully address our concern. EPA continues to recommend either the use of noise monitoring equipment to verify the accuracy of modeled noise impacts, or a commitment to monitor noise levels at NAWSCL perimeter near Armitage Airfield. Please discuss these mitigation measures in the Record of Decision for this action.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Final EIS. When the Record of Decision becomes available, please send a copy to the address above (specify Mail Code ENF-4-2). If you have any

questions, please contact me at 415-972-3521, or contact Phillip Lopez, the lead reviewer for this document, at 415-972-3210 or lopez.phillip@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office